

APPENDIX E

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE REPORT

Recognizing the growing importance of digital data collections in science, engineering, and education, the NSB Committee on Programs and Plans (CPP), then chaired by Dr. Anita K. Jones, organized and convened two public workshops held on November 18, 2003 and on March 23, 2004. The objective of this workshop series was to formulate the key policy questions for digital data collections that face the Board and Foundation and their constituent research and education communities. Participants in the first workshop were primarily representatives of federal agencies with interests in digital data collection, curation, preservation, and dissemination. The second workshop focused on the experience of the NSF grantee community and included representatives from the research and education communities, including the academic, non-profit, and commercial sectors. The workshop agendas and list of speakers are displayed in Appendices F and G. The findings from these workshops are presented in the report.

On February 5, 2004, the Board formed the Long-lived Data Collection Task Force. The task force charter ([NSB-04-19](#)) is provided in Appendix A. The Board charged the task force with delineating “the policy issues relevant to the National Science Foundation and its style and culture of supporting the collection and curation of research data” and with making “recommendations for the National Science Board and the community to consider.”

The task force prepared a draft report that summarized the discussions and recommendations made at the two workshops, supplemented by findings of others who have studied and published on these issues (see Appendix B for citations). The Board invited comments on the draft report from NSF staff during January, 2005. Comments from the public were solicited in May and June 2005 by posting the draft report on the NSB Web site and widely publicizing its availability. The names and affiliations of persons who submitted written comments are provided in Appendix H. The draft report was revised in response to the public comments, NSF staff comments, and subsequent CPP and Board discussion.

The report, *Long-Lived Digital Data Collections: Enabling Research and Education in the 21st Century* ([NSB-05-40](#)), was approved for publication at the NSB meeting on May 26, 2005.

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